GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5548
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2001
ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken up with the foreign Governments the issue of immigrants living illegally in India during the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of the countries with whom this issue was taken up during the aforesaid period giving the dates of taking up the issue;

(c) the details of the response received from such countries; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) In view of the magnitude of illegal immigration from Bangladesh to India, the matter has been regularly taken up with the Government of Bangladesh at the political, diplomatic and official levels including during the India - Bangladesh Home Secretary-level talks which took place from April 26-27, 2000 in New Delhi, at the Director General-level talks held between the Border Security Force and the Bangladesh Rifles held in Dhaka from October 21-25, 2000, at the Foreign Secretary-level talks between India and Bangladesh in New Delhi from December 13-14, 2000 and recently during the India - Bangladesh Joint Working Group meeting held from February 15-17, 2001 in New Delhi and at the Director General-level talks between Border Security Force and the Bangladesh Rifles held from March 28 to April 01, 2001 in New Delhi. As friendly neighbours, both countries are committed to resolving all bilateral issues through dialogue.